



Docket No: 19789-8

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: van Ooij et al. :
Serial No.: 09/356,926 : Group Art Unit: 1775
Filed: July 19, 1999 : Examiner: Michael LaVilla
For: **Silane Coatings For Metal** :

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.132

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Dr. Wim J. van Ooij declares that:

1. He is a co-inventor of, and is familiar with the present U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/356,926, filed July 19, 1999, entitled "Silane Coatings for Metal." He is also familiar with the Official Actions issued in this application, including the Official Action dated July 18, 2003 and the prior art references cited therein.

2. The methods of treating a metal surface as defined by claim 1 of the present application are based upon the surprising discovery that the addition of one or more bis-silyl aminosilanes to a vinyl silane solution significantly improves the storage stability of the solution and significantly improves the corrosion protection provided by the solution. As demonstrated in the examples on pages 16-18 of the specification, untreated HDG panels